

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A dental device configured for curing light-curable compounds, comprising:
a body extending between a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end of the body is sized and configured to be received by a dental hand piece holding tray; and
a light source disposed at the distal end of the body and configured to emit radiant energy suitable for curing a light-curable compound.
2. A dental device as recited in claim 1, wherein the light source comprises at least one LED.
3. A dental device as recited in claim 1, further including a power cord operably connecting the dental device to a power supply.
4. A dental device as recited in claim 3, further including power supply wires disposed within the body and communicating between the light source and the power cord.
5. A dental device as recited in claim 1, further comprising controls disposed on the body, wherein the controls are configured for controlling illumination of the light source.
6. A dental device as recited in claim 5, wherein the controls include a first button for activating the light source for a predetermined duration of time.

7. A dental device as recited in claim 6, wherein the controls further include at least one button for altering the predetermined duration of time.

8. A dental device as recited in claim 1, further including at least one battery for supplying power to the light source.

9. A dental device as recited in claim 1, further comprising a transilluminating lens disposed at the distal end of the dental device adjacent to the light source.

10. A dental device as recited in claim 9, wherein the transilluminating lens is configured to filter out undesired wavelengths emitted by the light source.

11. A dental device as recited in claim 9, wherein the transilluminating lens is fixedly connected to the dental device.

12. A dental device as recited in claim 1, wherein dental device further comprises a heat sink.

13. A dental device as recited in claim 12, wherein the light source is mounted on the heat sink.

14. A dental device as recite din claim 12, wherein the heat sink comprises at least one of aluminum, brass, copper, steel or silver.

15. A dental device configured for curing light-curable compounds, comprising:
- a body extending between a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end of the body is configured to securely fit into the holding slot of a standard dental hand piece holding tray, and wherein the distal end of the body is configured in size and shape to be inserted into the mouth of a patient; and
 - a light source disposed at the distal end of the body configured to emit light suitable for curing light-curable compounds;
 - a power cord operably connecting the dental device with a remotely located power supply; and
 - controls disposed on the body configured to control the operation of the light source, wherein the controls are ergonomically disposed on the body to be manipulated by a thumb during use.

16. A dental device as recited in claim 14, wherein the light source comprises an LED.

17. A dental device as recited in claim 14, wherein the body is substantially cylindrical.

18. A dental device as recited in claim 14, further comprising a lens fixedly connected to the distal end of the dental device.

19. A dental kit comprising:

a dental device configured for curing light-curable compounds that includes:

a body extending between a proximal end and a distal end;

a light source disposed at the distal end of the body configured to emit light;

and

a power cord operably connecting the dental device with a remotely located power supply;

a holder including:

an inner surface configured in size and shape to frictionally engage the proximal end of the dental device body; and

connecting means for connecting the holder with another device.

20. A dental kit as recited in claim 19, wherein the connecting means is configured for connecting the holder with a standard dental hand piece holding tray.

21. A dental kit as recited in claim 19, wherein the proximal end of the body is cylindrical, and wherein holder defines a slot through which the power cord can freely pass.